

# REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2023

Mr. SHOWS (during the special order of Mr. ROHRBACHER). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 2023.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

## STATE OF THE ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the state of the economy. The events of September 11 have had a terrible impact on our economy and one of the hardest hit areas has been the tourism industry. Travel and tourism are at the heart of America. They help fuel the engines of growth in both small and large cities throughout our Nation. And few cities in America rely as much as the City of Anaheim, California, which I am proud to represent. Anaheim is home to Disneyland, a tourist attraction like no other. It is the happiest place on Earth. And it is the West Coast's biggest convention area, the Anaheim Convention Center.

Last week, I was shocked to hear that Standard & Poor's had put the City of Anaheim on a credit watch because of concerns of a downturn in tourism. They indicated three areas in the United States where tourism may not come back, and one of them was Anaheim. Anaheim is especially vulnerable because its budget, its city budget, is heavily dependent on tourist spending. Over 54 percent of Anaheim's general fund revenues come from sales and bed taxes. A downgrade in their bond rating would make it more difficult to sell city bonds for projects. It would also lead to higher financing costs. The last time that this city, my hometown, the City of Anaheim, was placed on credit watch was in 1994 during the bankruptcy of the County of Orange.

Thousands of jobs are on the line in my district, jobs at gas stations, at restaurants, at rental car dealerships and at hotels. Taxicab drivers are having a very difficult time trying to make ends meet. Jobs are in jeopardy at many airline subcontractors in my district who make the flight control actuators and the nose wheel steering systems for commercial aircraft. This is only a partial list of the businesses that are beginning to fail in the area of Anaheim and central Orange County. Approximately 15 percent of the private workforce in Anaheim relies on tourism. That is higher than over half of the largest areas where tourism is a dependent industry for cities. Half of the city's top 10 employers are based in the tourism industry.

Last month, Congress helped the airlines with the airline bailout bill. That was for the airlines. However, we left the workers behind. They received nothing, the workers who are or, in so many cases, were the heart and the soul of the airline and tourism industry. That is why I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 2955, which would provide financial assistance, training and health care coverage to employees of the airline and related industries who lost their jobs as a result of the September 11 tragedies.

What type of economic stimulus package can best help the tourism industry and the people I represent, many of America's workers? As Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan warned, it is better to be right than to be quick. Yes, we need to get this right, but what we must do is be honest with each other. The American public must acknowledge that any economic stimulus package will likely push the Federal budget into deficit. We spent \$40 billion the Friday after September 11. We spent \$15 billion the next week on the airlines. Now we are talking about a stimulus package over \$100 billion. We need to understand that this money that we are spending, plus the regular spending that we are doing for the coming year, will put us into deficit. We need to work in a bipartisan fashion to develop a responsible stimulus package that boosts the economy in the short term, yet lays the groundwork for long-term prosperity. An effective stimulus package will help the economy get back on its feet by putting money in the hands of those who will spend it.

Last week I was disappointed to hear President Bush describe a stimulus plan that I think is built on ill-advised tax cuts, some of those tax cuts that he did not get done in the first package that he passed through the Congress. The effect of the President's plan would be less to stimulate the economy than to lock in long-term tax cuts. Given that so much of the imaginary surplus that was meant to finance the tax cuts has disappeared, this plan is ill-advised.

All items in an economic stimulus package should be temporary, not permanent. We need to provide immediate stimulus without doing harm to the long-term budget outlook. I support a short-term package that boosts consumer confidence, encourages investment and maintains fiscal discipline which will help keep our long-term interest rates in check. I hope that that is what Congress decides to help the people with.

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## WHAT MADE AMERICA GREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, today America is the undisputed superpower of the world. How did we do that? We do not have the most oil or the most gold or silver or diamonds. We do not have the best agricultural land. But yet we are the envy of every Nation in the world. How did we get here?

What I want to spend the next few minutes doing is looking at what made America great, and to do that I am going to plagiarize a sermon given by Dr. Richard Fredericks of the Damascus Road Community Church.

In the quotes that I will give, there will be lots of mention of Christianity. I would like to note that in the time in which these quotes were made, Christianity and religion were essentially equivalent terms; so when you hear Christianity, please think God-fearing person, rather than a specific religion or specific sect.

After the terrorist attacks, it is important that we celebrate our Nation's independence and freedom; that we pause to reflect on our national heritage as a defender of freedom and justice, to remember that our Founding Fathers and hundreds of thousands since bought our freedom at a price. Freedom is never free.

Our national freedom was very costly. Five of the 55 signers of the Declaration of Independence were captured and executed by the British, nine of them died on the battlefields of the Revolutionary War, and another dozen lost their homes, possessions and fortunes to British occupation. Our birth as a Nation was not cheap for these men.

What beliefs and convictions motivated them to do what they did? Increasingly, Mr. Speaker, in the United States today we are told that our Founding Fathers intended there to be this solid, necessary and protective wall erected between Church and State, to separate them, to keep each exclusively in its respective sphere of influence.

The key phrase we now use, which first appeared in the judicial vocabulary in the United States in 1947, is the separation of church and state. By and large, Americans have accepted or acquiesced to this new phrase, though it nowhere appears in the United States Constitution or in the first amendment, where the three words "separation, church and state" are not even found at all.

Actually, those three words first appeared together in another constitution. It is the constitution of the United Soviet Socialist Republic. Let me read from article 124.

In order to ensure to citizens freedom of conscience, the church in the USSR is separated from the state and the schools from the church.

The logic behind this phrase is that religion is a private matter that should neither guide nor even be allowed to possibly influence public education, the formation of minds, government